

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS**  
State Surgeon General & Secretary

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 18, 2013

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**SUSPENSION OF MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATIONS**

The Jefferson County Mosquito control has exhausted all available funds for the current 2013 mosquito season. All mosquito operations ceased on June 3, 2013. The Florida Department of Health in Jefferson County operates a seasonal mosquito control program per contract agreement with the Jefferson Board of County Commissioners. The County and the Health Department are continuing to work together to resolve this issue.

Funding became an issue after the number of customers receiving mosquito control services doubled in response to Tropical Storm Debbie and the resulting explosion in the mosquito population in July of last year. The demand for services has increased every year since the program began, but the dramatic increase for services in 2012 was unprecedented.

More demand for services translated to increased costs for labor, fuel and pesticide. Funding for the program is provided by the County and an annual grant administered by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The funds provided by the County have remained the same, but State grant funding was reduced in 2012 to deal with budget short falls experienced by the down economy.

For a more complete summary of recent operations please see the 2012 Mosquito Control accomplishment report on the Jefferson County Website <http://www.jeffersoncountyfl.gov/> under news and announcements.

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